Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Monday 21 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Tuesday 22 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Sunday 20 Dec 2020 at 09:36

Confidence: High for the general weather story for Monday and Tuesday. Lower confidence for Wednesday for northward extent of precipitation over the United Kingdom. High for Thursday and Christmas Day.

Headline for Monday 21 Dec 2020: Low cloud and outbreaks of rain. Becoming drier in afternoon. Breezy.

Mountain weather hazards on Monday 21 Dec 2020

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Cloudy	Heavy Rain	Light rain	Dull	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
<05%	<05%	20%	90%	90%	50%	30%	10%

Forecast for Monday 21 Dec 2020

Weather: Dry with clear spells overnight. Rain will arrive early morning, becoming heavy at times. Rain will become lighter and fizzle out in the afternoon. A dry evening with clearing skies.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 80% overnight becoming 10% early morning. Extensive cloud above 400m during the morning, slowly lifting to around 700 or 800m through the afternoon then clearing in the evening.

Visibility: Less than 100m on higher slopes in low cloud, especially through the morning. Rather hazy below the cloud base but becoming good during the afternoon.

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Forecast for Monday 21 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	32/39 SW	26/32 S	28/34 SE	30/36 SE	18/22 SE	23/27 NW	26/32 NW	24/29 W	21/25 W
600	25/34 SW	24/32 S	24/33 SE	23/30 SE	15/20 SE	16/21 NW	20/27 NW	18/25 W	16/22 W
300	9/26 SW	8/21 S	7/21 SE	7/21 SE	5/13 SE	7/17 NW	8/21 NW	7/19 W	5/15 W
Valley	8/24 SW	8/20 S	8/21 SE	8/21 SE	5/12 E	7/18 NW	9/21 NW	8/20 W	7/17 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	0/-8	1/-7	1/-7	2/-6	2/-3	2/-5	0/-7	-1/-8	-1/-8
600	2/-4	2/-4	2/-4	2/-4	3/-1	3/-1	2/-4	1/-4	1/-4
300	5/2	4/1	4/1	4/2	5/4	5/2	4/2	3/1	3/1
Valley	7/5	6/4	5/3	6/4	7/6	7/4	6/4	6/3	6/3
Freezing Level*	900m	900m	900m	1400m	1600m	1300m	900m	800m	800m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Cold and damp conditions on the tops with a significant wind chill.

Forecast for Tuesday 22 Dec 2020

Weather: A touch of frost in the valleys at first then a dry and bright day with sunny spells and light winds. Just a small chance of a wintry shower.

Maximum wind: South or Southwest 10-15mph, gusts 20mph.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 95%. Clear summits expected, just a few patches on upslopes in the morning.

Visibility: Mainly very good.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 1C rising to 7C, falling to Minus 1C in evening.
At 800m: Around 0C.
Freezing level: 800m.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Sunday 20 December, Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:10, Temperature: minus 0.1C, Maximum wind speed 22.7mph, Wind chill: minus 7.8C, Average wind speed: 19.3mph.

Full report: Wintery conditions returned to the higher fells today with a mixture of sleet, snow, and graupel above roughly 700m. Although it was just a light dusting, the classic ridges (Striding and Swirral Edge) require a high level of care to negotiate safely. With all the recent rain, rivers are full making them difficult to cross and the ground is saturated making some of the paths and rocky areas very slippery. The freezing level tomorrow is forecast to fluctuate and eventually drop to around 700m. As a result, today's wet snow is likely to freeze and any further precipitation could fall as snow, especially later in the day. Anyone venturing into the higher fells should be prepared for wintery weather and potentially icy conditions on the tops. Full winter clothing including waterproofs, warm layers as well as hat & gloves, and equipment including mountain boots, headtorch, map and compass and the ability to use them in poor visibility are all essential. Carrying additional equipment including goggles, ice axe & crampons or microspike is also advisable.

Issued at: 1800 on Sun 20 Dec 2020

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